

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application.

The specification has been amended by adding a cross-reference to an earlier filed foreign application as the first sentence of the specification.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the present amendment. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

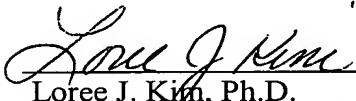
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